Wednesday, March 14, 2012 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 97 P18 | Mobile Alert: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet

CJ wife retained lot title 21 years after sale



MAKING HISTORY The Philippine Azkals celebrate in front of supporters at Halchowk Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Azkals defeated Tajikistan, 2-1, to make history by claiming the country's first semifinal appearance in the AFC Challenge Cup. (Story in Sports, Page A24.) GOALNEPAL.COM

By TJ Burgonio

THE DEED of absolute sale between Cristina Corona and Demetrio Coronado Vicente involving seven parcels of land in Marikina City was notarized by an unlicensed notary public in Makati City in 1990 and Senator Corona himself was reminded this.

While the deed of absolute sale was executed over 20 years ago, the parcels of land with a total area of 1,780 square meters and purchased for P509,000 in 1990 remained in Cristina's name. The tax declaration was also in her name.

All this surfaced yesterday during the cross-examination of defense witness Vicente, a relative of Corona, on Day 28 of the impeachment trial of the Chief Justice.

He was presented as a defense witness in connection with the second impeachment article, which accuses Corona of not disclosing his statements of assets, liabilities and net worth (SALNs).

Vicente, 79, told the Senate impeachment court that he purchased seven parcels of land in Marikina Heights, Marikina City, from Cristina in July 1990.

CJ WIFE/A20

CJ earned ₱21M in 10 yrs

GMA, Mike A, Mendoza ordered arrested over NBN deal, post bail



NO MUG SHOTS, PLEASE Mike Arroyo, husband of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, arrives at the Sandiganbayan to post bail of P30,000 on Tuesday. He submitted his own picture. At right is his lawyer, Ferdinand Topacio.

By Leila B. Salaverria

FOR THE second time since stepping down from office, former President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was ordered arrested yesterday, this time for a graft case over the canceled $329-million National Broadband Network (NBN) deal.

The Sandiganbayan Fourth Division ordered her arrested along with husband Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, former Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos and former Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza.

Their case is bailable, though it doesn't mean the former President and Abalos will be freed if they post bail since they are currently detained on a nonbailable electoral sabotage charge.

Mike Arroyo and Mendoza each posted P30,000 bail at the Sandiganbayan yesterday, a few hours after the court ordered the warrant to be served.

In posting bail, Mike Arroyo and Mendoza were subjected to fingerprinting, but their mugshots were not taken.

GMA/A21

SC budget exec talks on Corona income



'CHARACTER' WITNESS The many faces of Demetrio Vicente on the witness stand. He's no ordinary witness after all. He's the cousin of the Chief Justice whose wife sold him seven parcels of land in 1990, where he now grows bonsai.

By Christian V. Esguerra

DID IMPEACHED Chief Justice Renato Corona earn enough to acquire properties, which, the prosecution panel claimed, were unexplained wealth?

A day after being accused of delaying the proceedings, the defense panel yesterday went straight to the second impeachment article—Corona's alleged failure to publicly declare his statements of assets, liabilities and net worth (SALNs)—and presented a key witness to testify on his sources of income.

Araceli Bayuga, a budget and disbursement officer of the Supreme Court, testified that Corona had received a total of P21,638,781.45 in salaries, allowances and other benefits, since he joined the tribunal in 2002 until last year.

Corona's salaries from the same period amounted to a total of P5,873,859.82, the witness said under direct examination by the lead defense counsel, Serafin Cuevas.

Much of Corona's earnings came from allowances and oth-

CJ EARNED/A20

JPE, Jinggoy, Kiko, Tito, Ping: Tiangco testimony irrelevant

By Cathy C. Yamsuan

IN SEPARATE interviews, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada, Majority Leader Vicente "Tito" Sotto III and Senators Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan, Panfilo "Ping" Lacson and Edgardo Angara observed that Rep. Toby Tiangco's testimony was irrelevant.

"I'll tell them, that's enough. Go directly to the substance of Article 2," Enrile said before the day's proceedings.

JPE, JINGGOY/A20

'Text' ties Palawan ex-gov to Ortega slay

By Philip C. Tubeza

"SANA pag-uwi ko ay tapos na ang problema" (I hope when I get home, the problem would be over.)

"OK po"

"Ingat" (Take care.)

Rodolfo Edrad Jr. disclosed the text message he received from former Palawan Gov. Joel Reyes and the ensuing exchange of replies sometime in January last year, before Gerardo "Doc Gerry" Ortega, a popular radio broadcaster and environmentalist, was shot and killed in Puerto Princesa City.

Saying his string of text messages to Edrad indicated guilt, the Department of Justice (DOJ) yesterday reversed a previous decision and recommended the filing of murder charges against Reyes, along with four more people, for the killing of Ortega on Jan. 24, 2011.

'TEXT'/A8



Men warned vs use of beauty products

By Jocelyn R. Uy

VANITY can pose dangers to men's health, too.

While women are most vulnerable to hazardous substances due to constant use of beauty products, men are also exposed to as many as 88 chemicals daily from personal care items such as soap, shampoo, shaving cream and perfume after shave, according to Ann Blake, a California-based molecular genetics expert.

Some of these items contain substances that may affect the quality of the sperm, said the expert.

MEN WARNED/A8

Second
FrontPage



TUCP LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE

Labor group kicks out Herrera

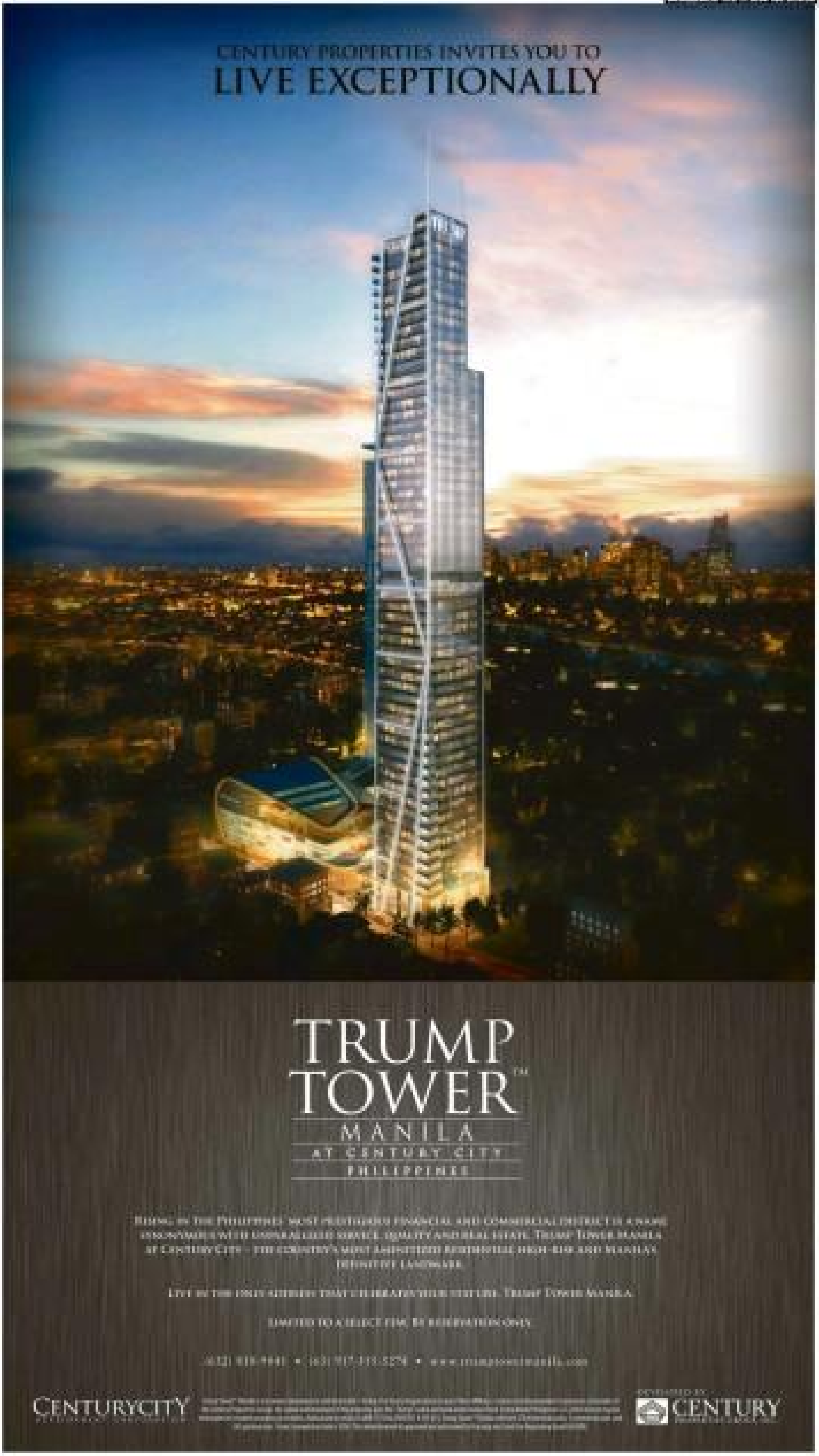
LONG-TIME secretary general Ernesto Herrera of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines has been formally expelled from the labor group, the TUCP said yesterday.

Mendoza vs Herrera

'Illegal' action

Ampatuan Sr. wants to go to Heart Center

Another African arrested for drugs


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THE LANDMARK
MAKATI
TRINOMA

Ex-Comelec exec pleads not guilty

By Mike Frialde

FORMER election supervisor Lintang Bedol yesterday pleaded "not guilty" to the accusation he rigged the results of the 2007 senatorial elections in Maguindanao on the orders of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and then provincial Gov. Andal Ampatuan Sr.

Arraigned before Judge Jesus Mupas of the Pasay Regional Trial Court Branch 112, Bedol entered his plea with his counsel Reynaldo Pimpisan, who also filed a motion to allow his client to use communication devices like cell phones and laptops while in detention.

Acting on the request, Mupas ordered prosecutors from the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to comment in writing on Bedol's motion after they objected in open court.

The judge set Bedol's pretrial on April 19.

Bedol, who was brought to court in handcuffs, has been detained at the custodial center of Camp Crame since last year after surrendering to the Comelec.

Defense asks impeach court to cite House leader in contempt

Sister Flory testimony still a possibility

Wynn-Okada corporate casino war worsens

By Doris L. Lucas

CA junks jai alai suit vs De Lima, Robredo

By Philip C. Tubeza

No defiance

Doing their duty

Impeachment court reprimands defense lawyer

Heavier penalty

'Text' messages ties Palawan former governor to murder of Ortega



Ortega' remarks

Text messages

Hiding in Quezon

WHAT WENT BEFORE

Close contact

Men warned vs beauty products

Lead in lipsticks

Acutely toxic

Taiwan protests PH plan for Spratlys

AFP

Rock star Karl Roy, one of local music's best acts; 43

Veggie noodles for relief



A line-up you sin
6"
5.5"
5"
4.5"
4"
3.5"
HTC
Sensation XE
BlackBerry®
Bold™ 9790
SPECIAL EDITION
1 plan. 1 phone. 2
500 sms
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nply can't refuse.
6"
5.5"
5"
4.5"
4"
3.5"
HTC
Evo 3D
Samsung
Galaxy Note
DATA PLAN 1000
24 months to pay.
00 mins
1GB DATA
SMART
LIVE MORE

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

An inconvenient truth

EDITORIAL



Defense witnesses and dilatory tactics

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

The harder he thrashes

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Pressure on witness

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



High cost of beauty

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Urban legends

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



True stories

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan





Bring our elderly and disabled home

LETTERS

A karmic turn into the inevitable

'Sin tax' reforms: facts, hard evidence

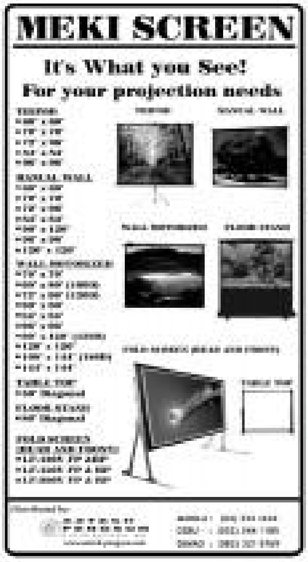


Correction

[illegible] the editorial on Page A16 of the Opinion section—"Easy, gracious presence"—erroneously stated that the late Rolando Tinio, a National Artist for Theater and Literature, graduated from the same high school in Manila as the late Inquirer publisher [illegible]. Tinio finished high school at Colegio de San Juan de Letran in Intramuros—and [illegible] high school in [illegible].

* * *

[illegible]





PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

POSITION STATEMENT

Protect the Young and the Poor : Tobacco Tax Reform Will Save Lives

We need to reform our tobacco tax system in order to save millions of lives. By increasing the prices of cigarettes through effective taxation, the Filipino people, especially the **young and the poor**, will be protected from the country's deadly smoking epidemic.

A Health Crisis is Unfolding Before Our Very Eyes

Today, the Philippines has one of the highest smoking rates in Asia – 28.3% or 17.3 Million Filipinos aged 15 years and above are cigarette consumers (2009 Global Adult Tobacco Survey). The Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) in 2007 showed that among the Filipino youths aged 13-15 years, nearly 3 in 10 were tobacco users.

Thus, we are now seeing an upsurge of smoking-related diseases. 60% of the deaths in the country are already caused by non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart attacks, stroke and cancer (Dans, Antonio, et al., Lancet, Feb 2011, 337: 680-689). Time and again, medical studies have shown that the primary factor triggering these NCDs is the use of tobacco.

But NCD's are not a disease of the affluent. Medical studies have shown that smoking prevalence is significantly higher among the poor segment of the population. This, in turn, has led to higher mortality rates from NCD's among the less affluent (Lancet, Feb 2011, 337: 680-689).

In addition, NCDs accounted for 60% of all disabilities experienced below 60 years old in 2008. Estimates show that this rate will increase to 75% by 2030 if nothing is done. Not only would this impact most of our present youth smokers— it would cripple the Philippine's workforce.

Disastrous Costs

According to WHO studies, the burden due to these diseases were already over P100 billion annually back in 2003. On the other hand, the government was only able to collect a measly P23-27 billion in taxes from tobacco products annually in 2004-2009.

All these costs weigh down on the families of tobacco victims who must shoulder the catastrophic medical expenses, even as they suffer from losses of income. Wages are lost; workdays are skipped to tend to the sick— these have ensnared countless families on a downward spiral to poverty.

The Philippine College of Physicians (PCP) Supports Rep. Abaya's Tobacco Tax Reform

The Philippine College of Physicians (PCP) supports the tobacco tax reforms of Cavite Rep. Joseph Emilio Abaya as it is more than a revenue measure. The Abaya bill is seen as a health measure that effectively saves people's lives from tobacco-related ailments, particularly the young and the poor.
Specifically, the PCP supports the following elements of the Abaya bill:

1. Removal of price classification freeze (Annex D in RA 9334) that allowed the cigarette companies to pay their taxes based on the October 1, 1996 average net retail prices. This shortchanged the government with revenues amounting to as much as P44.24 billion.
2. Shift of tax system from multiple (four-tier) to single tax rate for all tobacco products to prevent the consumers, especially the young and the poor, from shifting to a cheaper brand.
3. Increase excise tax on cigarettes and tobacco products to effectively deter the young and the poor from smoking.
4. Adjust the taxes of cigarettes according to inflation to prevent tax erosion.

Tobacco Tax for Universal Healthcare: Abaya Bill is Pro-Health

With higher revenues to be generated from cigarettes come greater funding for the Universal Health Care program and health promotion especially among the young and the poor. This is justice served for all the deleterious health consequences of tobacco.

The Abaya Bill is Pro-Tobacco Farmer

The tobacco tax reform proposal also earmarks incremental revenues to provide alternative livelihood programs for the tobacco farmers. Increase in revenues from tobacco tax means increase in the earmarked revenues for tobacco farmers to assist them to shift to alternative livelihood in the event that they don't want to continue tobacco farming.

The Time For Action is Now!

The situation that we face is increasingly urgent; thus, we appeal to our honorable legislators to pass this very important tax and health measure. A health crisis is already looming in our midst, yet it is not too late to act preventively.

The time for action is now! Please pass the Tobacco Taxation Reform Bill or the Abaya Bill.
The Abaya Bill is Pro-Young, Pro-Poor, Pro-Tobacco Farmer, Pro-Health.
Your Vote is a Vote to Save the Young and the Poor!

Across the NATION

'Flying voters' tag Mangudadatu ally

COTABATO CITY—A close political ally of Maguindanao Gov. Esmael "Toto" Mangudadatu has been accused of facilitating the registration of so-called flying voters in the continuing registration process of the Commission on Elections for voters in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Comelec orders transfer of Isabela ballot boxes

Church agrees to priests as Army chaplains again

Doubts won't stop PMA topnotcher's dreams

By Marrah Erika Lesaba
Inquirer Southern Luzon



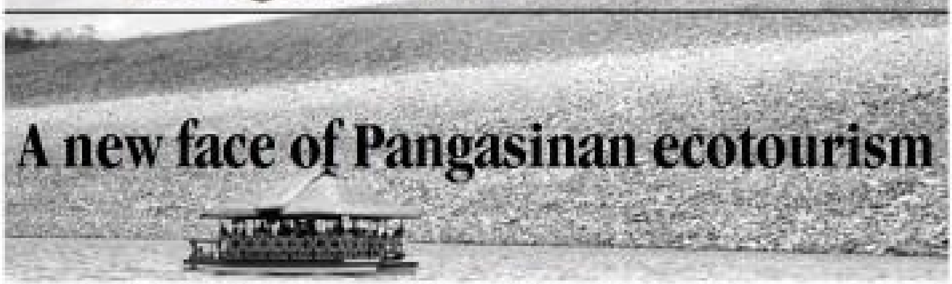


Pampanga group draws lesson from CJ trial

'The same trial is a test of our nation's democracy as it is a time for our people to reckon with truth...'

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

A new face of Pangasinan ecotourism



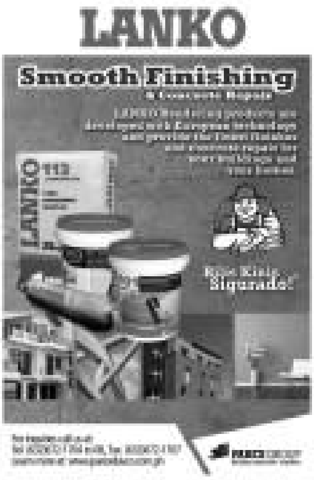
A NEW HUT-INSPIRED craft pushed by a motorized tugboat will ferry visitors across the San Roque reservoir, billed as the newest ecotourism destination in Pangasinan.

By Gabriel Cardinoza
San Manuel, Pangasinan

THE SAN ROQUE DAM that was blamed for the widespread flooding in eastern and central Pangasinan as Typhoon "Pepeng" struck in 2009 is gearing to become the new face of ecotourism in the province.

40 bird species

Ecology talk



They share time, money to lift lives of poor Kapampangan

By Tonette Orejas
City of San Fernando

IN 1987, a year after People Power 1 swept her to the presidency, Corazon Aquino inspired 35 people to return to their roots in Pampanga and, since they were successful in their respective careers, share their talents, time and money to help lift the lives of the poor among their cabalen (province mates).



Model



CJ earned ₱21M from salaries, allowances



Income from 2002 to 2011

Witness incompetent

Subpoenaed earlier

Bernas will not testify

CJ wife retained lot title 21 years after sale of 7 parcels of land



Manager's check

Trusted Corona

Fake public notary

Redirect

No ordinary witness

JPE, Jinggoy, Kiko, Tito, Ping, Ed: Tiangco testimony irrelevant

'Grave coercion'

Expulsion threat

Tiangco got his PDAF

GMA, Mike A ordered arrested over NBN deal

Consolidation of Neri's graft case pressed



A CLOSE-UP of the warrant of arrest issued against former First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, former Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza and former Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr.

Overpricing, bribery

Options for Mendoza

Probable cause ruling

Right direction



PACQUIAO

Roach wants Manny to score KO vs Bradley

PH Cup finalists in grudge match

Texters take on tough Tigers



Jaro stakes newly won WBC crown vs Japanese

Olivarez, Lim hurdle foes; Jones falls

Crack int'l triathletes vying in Xterra race

Barbosa wins, leads La Union chess tilt



Catalan seizes Lee Cup with a 69



Hand, Cayco top drag race 2nd leg

RACING TIPS

Rose lifts Bulls past Lin, Knicks

NLEX ices Big Chill; B'water scores



CALVIN Abueva of NLEX (right) gets fouled on the way to the hoop by Big Chill's Jessie Collado.

By Jasmine W. Payo

Depleted Patriots, Beermen face separate foes

By Jasmine W. Payo

Tough, untested route awaits Le Tour 2012 riders



AIR21 president Jerry Jara (left) listens as Dan-1 president Gary Cayton talks about the 2012 Le Tour de Pilipinas.

By Jasmine W. Payo

Playing the 'Sport of Kings' with a prince

In Huddle



Beth Celis

Nat'l Sagupaan 9-cock derby draws big field

LGBA bullstag battles March 16

SPORTS



THE VICTORIOUS Azkals ...

Amazing Azkals make history

Nothing short of spectacular

Looming penalty shootout

Aplus METRO

Probers eye drug angle in reporter's shooting

Tribune's Angeles still in critical condition

POLICE have begun looking at the local drug trade in Pasig City in their hunt for suspects in Sunday night's shooting of Daily Tribune reporter Fernan Angeles.

₱100K reward for tip on UP coed's attacker

MetroBriefs

Carjack suspect hurt

Janitor in ₱13M rob yet to post ₱24K bail

Funeral home owner slain in Valenzuela

Cops: Munti thieves dug tunnel from manhole

The WORLD

After a decade, war crimes court to hand down first verdict

Afghans' outrage grows over US soldier's rampage

KABUL—Outrage over a murderous rampage by a rogue American soldier who killed 16 villagers gripped Afghanistan on Monday as parliament called for a public trial and Taliban insurgents vowed revenge.



US Republicans face three-way tie in South



Love letters reveal Nixon's sensitive side

WorldBriefs

Sarkozy leads in opinion poll

Bangladesh ferry sinks; 30 dead

Guatemalan gets 6,060 years

US, Russia clash over Syria

Scientists to clone mammoth

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EVENTHIGHLIGHTS

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Trend Stores

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Manila Wear

Walls of Art

Red Box

Design Networking with the Campana Brothers

Creation Stations: Craft Revival

The Hub

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

March 14 • Wednesday

March 15 • Thursday

March 16 • Friday

March 17 • Saturday

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IN THIS ISSUE

■ Exports rose by 3% in January /B2-1

BUSINESS

■ Biz Buzz: Behind-the-scenes telco drama /B2-4

Execs turn more bullish on economy

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE 42.660



STOCK MARKET ▲ 30.58



Blue chips lift stocks

MBC says expectations buoyed by impeachment

FILIPINO business executives have turned more upbeat about the country's economic prospects this year, and—according to the head of the Makati Business Club—the Aquino administration's drive to impeach Chief Justice Renato Corona has contributed largely to it.

HSBC staying put in PH, other Asian countries

Rhyme and reason in personal finance

MONEY MATTERS
Efren ll. Cruz



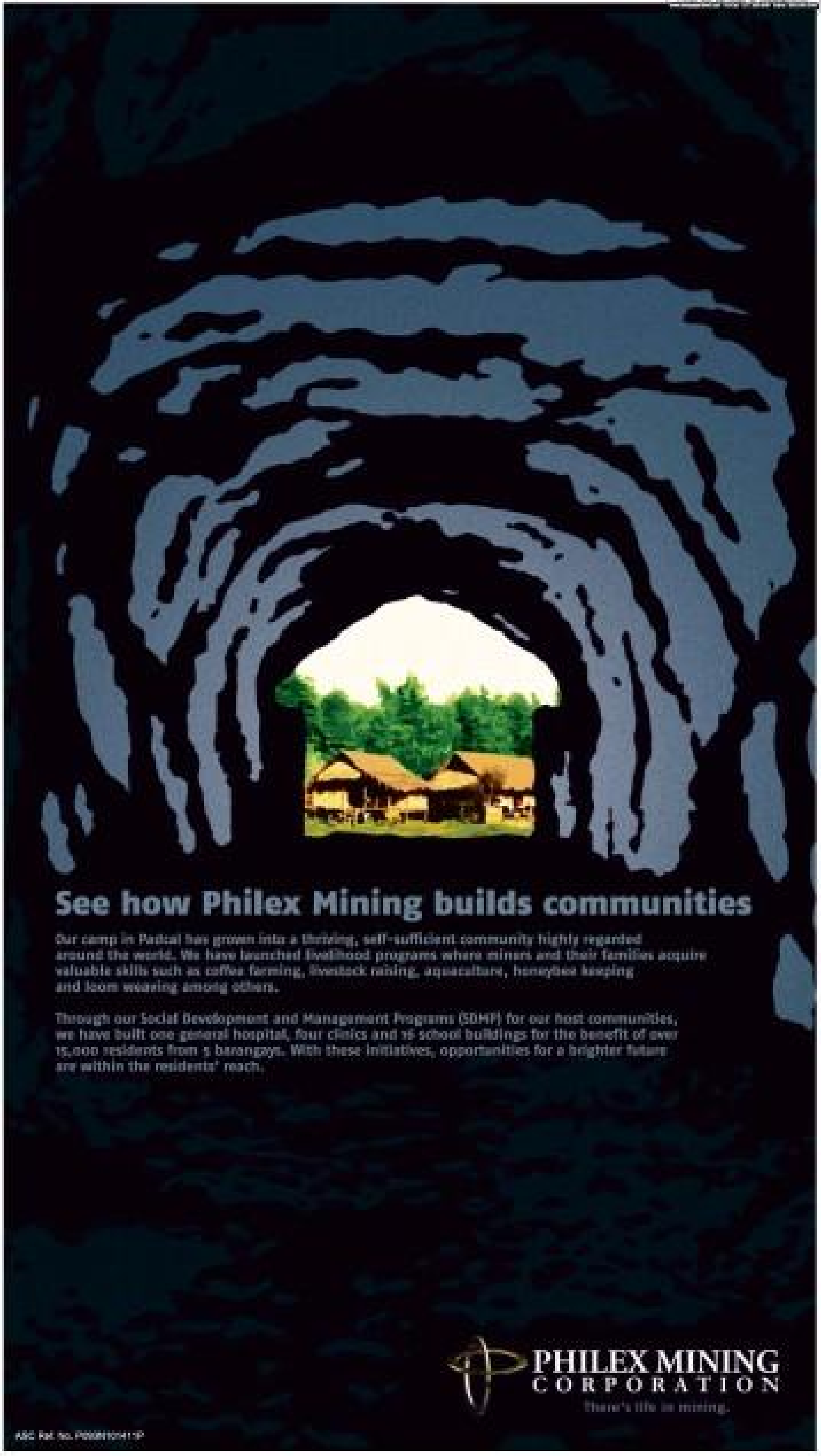
Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

HSBC staying put in PH

Execs turn more bullish

Money . . .



See how Philex Mining builds communities
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Through our Social Development and Management Programs (SDMP) for our host communities, we have built one general hospital, four clinics and 16 school buildings for the benefit of over 15,000 residents from 5 barangays. With these initiatives, opportunities for a brighter future are within the residents' reach.
PHILEX MINING
CORPORATION
There's life in mining.

BUSINESS



Net FDI inflows down

By Michelle V. Remo

Exports rose by 3% in January

Recovery after eight months of contraction





₱500M earmarked for incubator plan

By Paolo G. Montecillo

PHILIPPINES' TALLEST TWIN TOWERS BSA TWIN TOWERS at St. Francis Square, Ortigas Center



From the left: Arch. Rogelio Villarosa, Mr. Luke Roxas, Mr. Timothy Johnson, and Arch. Felino Palafox, Jr.



JOB HIRING

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GRAPHIC ARTIST

ERRATUM

In the MARCH 3 ISSUE, Classified Ads Section, page 12, two Requests for Expression of Interests (Consultant Services) were advertised for the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process. In the said advertisements, the EOIs were both due on the 14th and 22nd of March 2012 respectively. Both EOIs should be submitted on 22nd of March 2012.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

OCTAL

REACH STACKER DRIVERS

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GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

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ROLEX

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Municipality of Ganassi

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NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
MINDANAO RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NOTICE OF HIRING FOR THE RESEARCH SPECIALIST and PROCUREMENT OFFICER Positions

LEGAL NOTICE

Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative, Inc.
(ZAMCELCO)

NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS

More Classifieds on pages...

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE FOR DESIGN AND BUILT PROJECT

South Cotabato II Electric Cooperative, Inc.

INVITATION TO REBID

INVITATION TO APPLY TO BID



LAKBAY ARAL (STUDY VISIT).

Solerex to provide safe drinking water in Africa

OBITUARIES

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 1: 3

EDGARDO PASIMIO OLIVARES

Died on March 12 at the age of 79.

His family mourns his passing: his wife, **Ninez Cacho-Olivares**; children **Peter** and **Carmela**, **Bambina**, **Michael** and **Xandra**, **Pixie** and **Jay Fonacier**; grandchildren **Carlo**, **Iñigo**, **Isabella** and **Enrique Olivares**, **Samantha** and **Jessica Wise**, and **Julio Olivares** and **Noelle Fonacier**; brothers, sisters and in-laws.

His remains lie at the Capilla del Señor, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Interment will follow immediately after the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. on March 16, 2012.

OBITUARIES

Our dearly Beloved "DADI"
[Our Mr. UNIVERSE]

Estanislao Cuenco Carbungco

Peacefully joined our Lord on March [illegible], 2012 at the age of [illegible].

His loving wife Edna [illegible] and children Marilina "Kit", Estanislao "Stan", Jr. and Susan Llewellyn, Donathan Oliver, Edlyn and Israel Gonzalez; grandchildren Jonathan Estanislao, Joshua Thomas & Mariel Selvin, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Sagrador Deluxe Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on March [illegible], 2012 at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the [illegible] a.m. Mass.

Business

Behind-the-scenes telco drama

Biz Buzz
By the staff

Corporate auditor to poll auditor

LMG, Champhil chief's rejoinder

'Alternative' block vs. mining?

Windfall from delinquency



MOTORING



Do or Call?

What to do in a flat tire situation

Drive like a girl... fabulously

chic driven

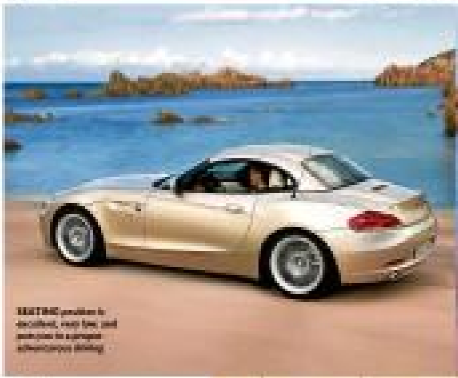
What are the tools needed?

How do you change a flat tire?

Proactive Solutions

Emergency Assistance

The Verdict





By Botchi Santos

BMW Z4 SDRIVE30I

The ultimate sun-tanning machine

CRITICS WILL argue that a convertible in the Philippines, particularly in Manila, is about as useful as another hole in a man's head.





AT A GLANCE

Bimmer owners hit the beach





Thai floods continue to haunt PH auto business

By Charles E. Buban

32.5-percent decline

Continuing supply issue

37-percent growth



CAMPI president Rommel Gutierrez

Volvo plays key role in smart charging concept for electric cars

Electric drive without compromises

Totally in control, connected

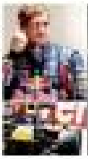






Casio still official timekeeper of Manila Int'l Auto Show 2012

By Alvin Uy







MAXIMOTORS PUTS UP 42ND MITSUBISHI DEALERSHIP IN PALAWAN

Art and History Appreciation 101

Petron presents MIAS 2012 Custom and Classic Car Competition

By Jason Ang



1960s Ford Mustangs should be among the hot contenders.



CHEVY Corvettes from the 50s are also competing.

BBS, Carlsson and Kelleners now in PH



KELLENERS SPORT performance wheel

MOTORING

Waiting for Ranger

Ford Philippines' all-new world pickup to debut at MIAS 2012



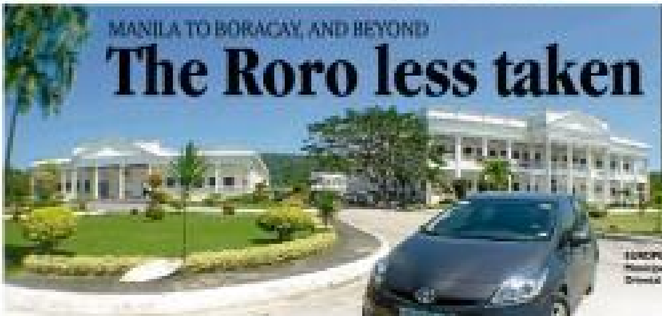






MANILA TO BORACAY, AND BEYOND

The Roro less taken



EUROPEAN-INSPIRED Municipal Hall in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro



GOING bananas, in a big way, in Mindoro. King Kong must be in a beach nearby.



IT'S more fun to drive amidst rolling grasses

Text and photos by Tessa R. Salazar

IT'S SO easy to fly to any far-flung place in the Philippines nowadays, it's getting to be a bore. Really. And when you're someone who firmly believes in the saying "The journey, not the arrival, matters" by TS Eliot, then you'll definitely be revolted of flying. Not because of the prospect that the aircraft might malfunction anymore and crash, but because the flight would have taken half the thrill of your trip away.

It is in this spirit of adventure that this Summer Trip article has been written. Flying there presents an expanded world of convenience, especially for the harried traveler. But going on a road trip, and taking the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH), has its inherent charms. And when you're a group of five or more with lots of luggage, hitting the roads instead of taking to the skies could turn out to be a lot more fun.

Now, thanks to technology that has brought us the wonderful global positioning system (GPS), you don't have to play guessing games and pull over every so often to ask for directions. Any smartphone worth its salt has a built-in GPS or navigation guide. Just key in your destination (say, Caticlan, Kalibo or Boracay) and let your gadget lead the way.

For those who still prefer holding on to their old, worn-out maps, the key points to remember are: (if you're coming from Manila) the Batangas City and the Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro Ports. If you're coming back to Manila, then put an X-mark on the Caticlan, Aklan and Calapan, Oriental Mindoro ports. These four ports are crucial to enable you to cross from the Luzon mainland to Panay Island, and vice versa.

Then, make sure the vehicle you will bring is in tip-top shape and comfortable enough to fit you and your luggage. You would never want yourselves to suffer from your car breaking down while in transit on a Roll-on Roll-off (Roro) vessel, hundreds of kilometers from the nearest car shop. Don't forget to bring copies of your vehicle's OR (official receipt) and CR (certificate of registration). The Coast Guard at every port will be looking for them. No papers, no Roro ride.

Set aside cash to pay for terminal fees, arrastre (which roughly pertains to the service done to load and unload your vehicle and cargo from the ship to the dock, and vice versa), and the Roro fees for the vehicle and the passengers (the driver boards for free). The good news is that the local port authorities and shipping lines have streamlined their procedures for verifying of papers and collecting fees. There was a time not so long ago when it was a cumbersome affair. Arranging for one vehicle to ride the Roro was like putting a jigsaw puzzle together. Getting tickets for passengers was in one building, paying for the vehicle was in another. Then, you'd have to walk half a kilometer away to get your clearance from the Coast Guard, and then another winding walk down dark hallways to pay for the arrastre. By the time all your papers and tickets were in order, the Roro would have been ready to sail off.

Today, paying for terminal-related fees and getting the vehicle's papers in order are conveniently accomplished in one drive-through window (in the Batangas City Port). All you have to do is present your OR and CR at the window as you drive by the booth and pay. Your passengers need not even go down from the vehicle. The Roro ticketing officers will approach you as you line up your vehicle for boarding, where you would pay for the vehicle and the passengers. The process has basically been simplified in the other three ports, as well.

On average, a Roro vessel sets off for the three-hour crossing from Batangas Port to the Calapan Port every two hours. From Calapan, vehicles headed for Panay Island have to make the 220-km dash from Calapan to Roxas Pier in southern Oriental Mindoro to catch the Roro going to Caticlan Pier in Aklan. The Roro here makes less frequent trips, as one crossing may take up to five hours. So, on average, only two or three Roro trips are made a day. Check the website of one of the more reliable Roro services, Montenegro Lines (montenegrolines.com.ph) to check for the schedules, as well as their fees. Don't go driving too fast in Mindoro, though. The highway is quite narrow and the houses stand close to the road. Enjoy the scenery, which may be just as refreshing as any countryside in the Philippines.

Since the Roro trip from Roxas to Caticlan takes considerably longer, the fees are higher.

The Roro vessels, both on the Mindoro and Panay stretches, are generally well-maintained. Some basic amenities, though, like the restrooms and on-board convenience store, may need some improvement. But if you can hold things in for up to five hours, then good for you, mate.

Your arrival in Caticlan Pier truly opens up a big new island for you and your group to explore on the road. World-famous Boracay Island is just a 15-minute pumpboat away, and there are plenty of parking lots being offered around the Caticlan Pier (at a going rate of P150 per overnight) so you can leave your car in relative security and safety. If it's not-so-fun season, you can head on over to Kalibo, 68 km to the east to witness real "fiesta fun" festivities. Iloilo City is six hours away via Kalibo and Capiz Province, or four hours away via the more scenic Caticlan-Antique route.

The trip from Manila to Kalibo is all of 448 km, but since a huge part of that would be via the sea, the actual driving distance registers at only about 380 km. The total travel time, from Makati to Kalibo, runs to 21 hours, including the time spent waiting for the Roro ships to dock and depart.



BASKING in the Panay sun, under the blue sky and tall coconut trees



A WELCOMING couple of a resort in New Washington, Aklan

Cost experience with the Prius

On the first week of March, this writer embarked on another Roro journey with the Toyota Prius, this time with the intent of going all the way from Manila to Iloilo (the first time, last November, we made it only up to Kalibo due to time constraints). We kept our receipts to tally our cost experiences. Here are the tallies: Batangas-Calapan Roro passenger fare—P192, vehicle fee—P1,520. Terminal fee of P128 for the vehicle (called Non-Pier), passenger terminal fee of P36. At the Roxas Port, a toll fee of P70, Roro terminal fee of P128, Roxas-Caticlan passenger fare of P351 and vehicle fee of P3680. Thus, one way, from Batangas to Caticlan, the Roro expenses ran up to P6,097.

Going back to Manila from Panay, here's the bill. At the Caticlan Pier: Weigh bridge fee of P80 for a class I vehicle. Terminal fee of P20, passenger fee of P351; Roro vehicle fee of P3680 (Caticlan to Roxas). At Roxas Pier, toll fee of P80. In Calapan Pier, Roro vehicle fee of P1520; passenger fee of P192; Roro terminal fee (ticket P20); terminal fee of P20, for a total return expense of P6,078.

Hypothetically, if there were five of us in the vehicle, there would be an additional expense of P1152 and P2346, both ways, for the Batangas-Calapan and Roxas-Caticlan stretches, respectively. Adding that to the total of P12,195 our two-passenger team incurred, a five-person group would incur a grand total expense of P15,693 for Roro expenses. Then, add to that fuel expenses. A Manila-Kalibo trip is 380 km long road-wise. So, for an average fuel mileage of 10 km per liter and a prevailing per liter rate of P55 for leaded gasoline and P47 for diesel, the vehicle would consume 38 liters, one way (56 liters in total). That would cost P2632 (diesel) to P3080 (gasoline). If you add Iloilo to the itinerary (which is 158 km from Kalibo), that's an additional 32 liters of fuel, back and forth, for a fuel expense range of P1,504 to P1,760. So, for a five-person convoy going from Manila to Kalibo, and back, in a diesel-powered vehicle, the grand total expense (Roro and fuel), would be P18,325 for diesel and P18,773 for gasoline. And when you add Iloilo, that would run up to P19,785 (diesel) and P20,533 (gasoline). In effect, each person would have to shell out P3,659 (on a diesel-powered car, to Kalibo only) or P3,749 (gasoline), and P3,941 (diesel, to Iloilo), or P4,079 (gasoline, to Iloilo).

Most likely, the plane fares would be much lower on a cost per person basis. And you would only have to endure two hours of waiting in mid-air both ways, as opposed to a 20-hour tour on ears, highways, rough roads, rough seas (yes, summer's strong breezes can whip up some nauseating waves) and the unpredictable moods of public servants. But can you stop a plane in mid-flight, step out, smell the flowers, take wacky shots, or discover a gem of a restaurant? We didn't think so, too.

On an incredibly thrifty Prius (we got a "sloppy" mileage of 18 km per liter, sloppy because we sometimes turned the engine and aircon on inside the heated vehicle compartment of the Roro vessels), we were able to drive through five provinces (Batangas, Oriental Mindoro, Aklan, Capiz, and Iloilo) and snapped hundreds of pictures. A priceless reach TS Eliot would have loved to see.

Do you have an interesting Roro story? E-mail the author at tsalazar@inquirer.com.ph



A VETERAN operator guides vehicles as they disembark from the Roro vessel.

AT A GLANCE

- Get a GPS or navigation guide (if your car doesn't have a built-in GPS).
- If you still prefer your old, worn-out maps, the key points to remember are: (if you're coming from Manila) the Batangas City and the Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro Ports. If you're coming back to Manila, then put an X-mark on the Caticlan, Aklan and Calapan, Oriental Mindoro ports.
- Don't forget to bring copies of your vehicle's OR (official receipt) and CR (certificate of registration). No papers, no Roro ride.
- Make sure the vehicle your group will bring is in tip-top shape and comfortable enough to fit you and your luggage.
- Set aside cash to pay for terminal fees, arrastre, the Roro fees for the vehicle and the passengers (the driver boards for free).
- There are plenty of parking lots being offered around the Caticlan Pier at a going rate of P150 per overnight.
- Each person (in a group of five) would have to shell out P3,659 (on a diesel-powered car, to Kalibo only) or P3,749 (gasoline), and P3,941 (diesel, to Iloilo), or P4,079 (gasoline, to Iloilo). IMPORTANT NOTE: This is only for an average fuel mileage of 10 km per liter and a prevailing per liter rate of P55 for leaded gasoline and P47 for diesel. Prices are subject to prevailing Roro charges and pricing tables.

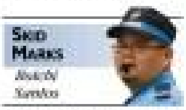
FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND DISPATCH SOLUTION INTRODUCED

New concept in taxi service emerges in PH

By Charles E. Buban



Lack of imagination



Dagupan dealership opens doors as Mazda PH expands network for upcoming launches



Isuzu extends promo to March 31



DRIVER'S side profile of the Panda



THE FRONT of the Geely LC resembles the Panda's head: round and plump

Enter the Panda

ON THE ROAD



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

[illegible]



EVEN the radio and aircon controls are housed in round



THE TWO-TONE cream and black interior evokes the panda's body color.



ALL-GLASS rear window opens wide. The tail lights resemble a panda's paws.

Starting small

[illegible]

5-speed MT

[illegible]

Mascot

[illegible]

14 seconds

[illegible]

LIFESTYLE



After Versace and Paris, now it's spaces by Missoni

For the first time, the Italian design house lends its name and aesthetic to a residential project —right beside the Pasig River

THE DESIGNER RESIDENTIAL building scene continues to heat up. After announcing its collaboration with Versace and Paris Hilton in separate projects

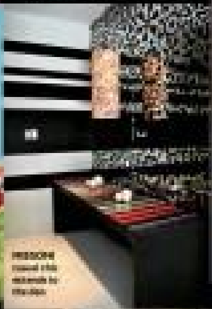
After Versace and Paris, now it's spaces by Missoni











Renowned Italian company





Man-made waterfalls

















Kin, close friends join Pitoy on his special day

















A Light and Delectable Spread from Max's

Bite into an exciting array of non-meat dishes as global Filipino brand Max's Restaurant offers a slew of succulent seafood and vegetable offerings that bring out the exquisite flavours of traditional Filipino cuisine.

"Filipinos are not only enthusiastic, but also gregarious when it comes to food. We came up with fresh and exciting flavours that will surely blow our Filipino palates away, especially as we usher in the Lenten Season," said Edgar Allan Capec, Marketing Director for Max's Restaurant.

An Adventure for the Palate
Max's recommends these new flavours for the adventurous palate: delightful dishes with an innovative twist. Diners will surely be surprised that vegetable and seafood can taste this good!

Sizzling Seafood in Honey Bagoong Sauce is a harmony of breaded cream dory, shrimps and squid rings that are deep-fried until light, golden brown, sprinkled with julienned red bell peppers and chopped spring onions, and finally, splashed with flavour-infused sauce that brings together sweet honey and piquant bagoong. Served on a sizzling plate, this sensational dish is a guaranteed must-try for seafood aficionados.

Max's Cauliflower Puffs are perfect for picky young diners and self-confessed meat-lovers who are still mustering the courage to veer away from red meat. Crisp cauliflowers are dipped in a batter, deep-fried and tossed in a special sauce. It's like eating meat, minus the guilt! Light and savory crunchy bites of this palatable dish will surely make diners [illegible] and delighted that they are actually eating healthy cauliflowers!

Another delectable dish is **Max's Adobong Kangkong Stuffed Tofu**, an inventive twist to the quintessential adobo. Fresh kangkong leaves, shiitake and button mushrooms drizzled in [illegible] adobo sauce, plated in between thick blocks of tofu. The mix of greens and earthy [illegible] lends a refreshing vibe that appeals to both vegetable and non-vegetable eaters. Health and figure-conscious diners who are gearing up for an adventure this summer can look forward to indulging in this dish.

"With these new flavours, Max's seeks to provide an exciting dining experience for its customers, regardless of their age, cultural background and status. Our commitment is to help our customers nurture their most treasured memories through innovation, great food and quality service from the heart," continued Capec.

Customers can also choose from a wide variety of classic non-meat favourites like Camaron Rebosado, Tyan ng Bangus, Sinigang na Hipon, Gambas con Ajillo, and [illegible] sa Tyan ng Bangus. Other innovative flavours from Max's include Sweet and Sour Fish Fillet, Fish Fillet in Black Bean Sauce and Steamed Fish Fillet in Light Soy. Fresh and vibrant, Max's non-meat offerings perfectly complement its world-famous "sarap-to-the-bones" fried chicken, crispy on the outside and notably tender on the inside.

Discover the most awe-inspiring dishes from Max's. Log on to www.maxschicken.com or visit www.facebook.com/maxsrestaurant to be a Max's Restaurant Facebook fan.



LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining





When western training meets indigenous materials and themes

The talented young furniture and accessories designers behind Epoch Collaboration, to be launched this Friday, have come home to the Philippines to reconnect with their roots

By Margo C. Enriquez
Contributor

THERE'S a new crop of young designers bringing novelty into the furniture and accessories theme. Called Epoch Collaboration, the team is composed of artists who have lived and worked abroad. They came to the Philippines to reconnect with their roots and merge their Western training with local indigenous materials and themes.

It all began when London-based designer Daniel Latorre Cruz came to the Philippines to visit the Cebu Next furniture fair. He met the [illegible] Christian Gaston, vice chair of Cebu Furniture Industries Foundation, who asked him to be design consultant for [illegible] companies.

He met Japanese graphic designer Wataru Sakuma, who, in turn, introduced him to other [illegible] artists. Gaston invited Latorre Cruz to participate in the Cebu Next fair last year and told him to form a group, which subsequently called itself Epoch Collaboration. They presented themselves to the "[illegible] Project," which means "[illegible] to the source." A team from the Center of International Trade and Export Missions was impressed by their edgy designs and invited them to the Manila Fame.

The group will launch itself on March 16 with a [illegible] theme at Gift Plaza on [illegible] Garden Street, Bel-Air, Makati.

DANIEL LATORRE CRUZ

Philippine-born Daniel Latorre Cruz was raised in England, and studied Furniture and Related Product Design at Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College in High Wycombe. He worked under various furniture designers and makers in London. He travels frequently to the Philippines to rediscover his roots and draw inspiration from artisans and new materials.

Breakthrough pieces: The Icarus lamp brought to the fore my design studio in London.

The split chair, bench and table for Casa Orlesma was an

[illegible]

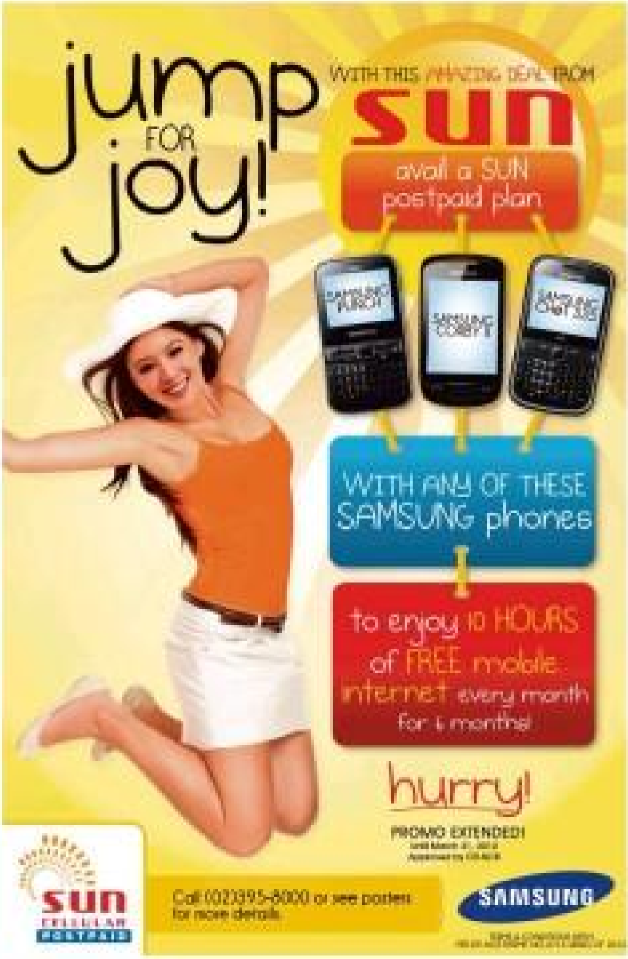


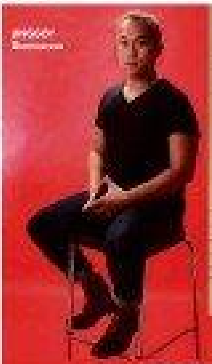


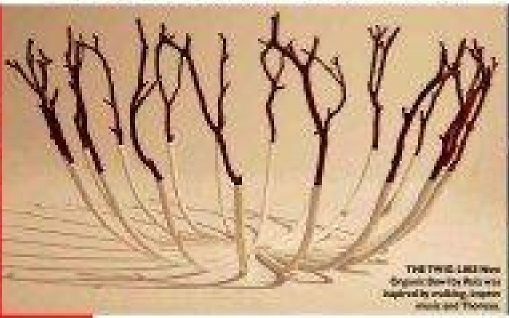
ICARUS lighting fixture and [illegible] chair by Latorre Cruz

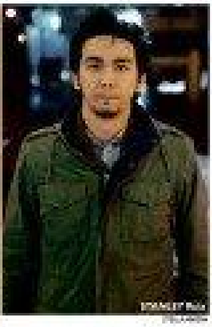


DANIEL Latorre Cruz

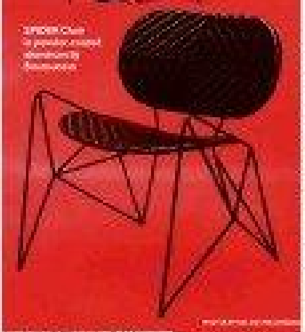








When western training meets indigenous . . .



Manipulating paper

WATARU SAKUMA



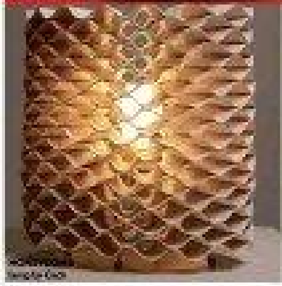


GENESIS "JINGGOY" BUENSUCESO

Handmade aspects

STANLEY RUIZ

MARTHA CECH





Creative uses for Moroccan inkwell

Take a closer look at what you have and expand its use

Anton Barretto and Mariana Lopa



DO-IT-YOURSELF

D.I.Y.







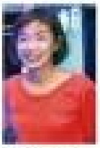




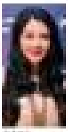
TECHNOMARINE Philippines' Raffy Florencio with wife Kat de los Santos Florencio, Manny Pacquiao and Ben Mendoza, also of TechnoMarine



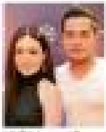








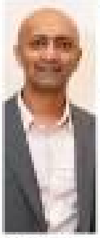
POPS Fernandez







DEE NICOLAS





Limited-edition Manny Pacquiao watch launched to much fanfare



Nokia's new captain

Ruby wedding rites

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

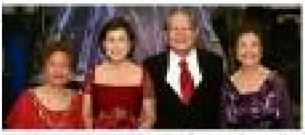


Photos by Alex Van Hagen





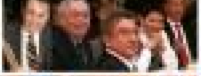


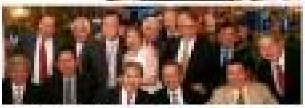




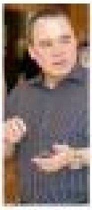














Kris Aquino finds a new home

The celebrity finds a perfect match in real estate giant Filinvest

By Ruth Mining
Contributor

REAL ESTATE giant Filinvest, which has been developing properties for almost 50 years, has tapped Kris Aquino as its brand ambassador. The meeting of two big names, both trusted and well-respected by Filipinos, is set to generate excitement in property development in the months to come.

Kris has openly expressed her admiration for the company for its role in helping Filipinos build their dreams. "Through the years, I have witnessed the company grow as they fulfill the dreams of every Filipino to have a home. My parents, my sisters, my brother and I once enjoyed a home where we were all complete, and those were the best moments of my life. Filinvest makes having a home possible, and I share this mission with them," says Kris.

Since late last year, she has been seriously considering acquiring property from Filinvest. "There are too many beautiful projects to choose from, and both of my kids are helping me decide. Josh wants his room to have a view of trees and hillsides, while Bimby just wants a big playground where he can hang out with his playmates.

"Timberland Heights is one such place. I have seen it myself and discovered that you don't have to go too far to live amid the beauty of nature," Kris shares.

Josephine Gotianun-Yap, director and president-CEO of Filinvest Development Corp., believes that Kris represents what the Filinvest brand stands for—a company



JOSEPHINE Gotianun-Yap, Kris Aquino, Joseph Yap and Boy Abunda



CHEF Hans awards Kris Aquino the membership card for the Palms Country Club.

that has grown vibrantly through the years and has gained the trust of Filipino families.

Innate talent

"We have seen Kris grow before our eyes, and her hard work and innate talent helped endear her to many Filipinos. We believe in Kris and she, too, believes in our common cause in building the Filipino dream," Yap explains.

Filinvest has been quite busy, dropping its major developments. They have built the country's tallest office tower in Makati, as well as the biggest mall in the south, the Festival Mall. They have also developed the 677-hectare Timberland Heights near Quezon City which boasts of mountain living close to the city, and the 244-hectare Filinvest Corporate City, which has now emerged as the shopping, office, hotel, and medical hub of the south.

This year, they have built residential condo communities within Metro Manila, Metro Cebu and Metro Davao. These are resort-living developments that are extremely accessible and found on major roads like Ortigas and Marcos Highway.

"These are wonderful places to raise families. We have lined up several projects in each of the categories we serve. We will announce these projects at the right time. We are confident that year 2012 will be another banner year for Filinvest, especially now that Kris has joined our family," Yap shares.

Kris has seen the plans for the campaign, but she cannot reveal it for now. "I have to contain my excitement and keep you in suspense. But all I can say is that it is truly a campaign I can be proud of."

UP Concert Chorus marks 50th year with concert

A MULTI-AWARDED CHOIR that has received praise and recognition, the University of the Philippines Concert Chorus (UPCC), known today as "Koro," Celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, the Aliw Awards Hall of Famer will embark on its 20th international world concert tour by performing in key cities in the United States, Europe and Asia.

As a warm send-off, the UPCC will hold a Pammamaalam Concert and Alumni Night titled "Singhapala, Singkwenta" on March 31, 7:30 p.m., at the Philamlife Auditorium. UPCC alumnus and multi-awarded performer Ronnie Liang as well as alumni from UPCC batches 1980s all the way to 1994 will perform as special guests.

The six-month tour will bring the UPCC to several states in the US, including Washington D.C., Oregon, California, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Texas, New York and New Jersey. Besides the US, the group will perform in European countries including Germany and Italy, as well as joining choral competitions and festivals in Spain, Finland, Scotland and Hungary. Before heading back to the Philippines, the group will also be sharing their music in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.

Tickets are priced at P300 while students and senior citizens get a discounted rate of P200.

Interested parties can contact either Venus at 0919-7481201 or Rodney at 0917-8050776, or visit www.upconcertchorus.org or www.facebook.com/upconcertchorus for tickets and more information.



both sides of Sal Tiquez Street for footwear of every imaginable style and color.

The tour fee is P1,000 per person, inclusive of buffet lunch, land transportation and the services of a DOT-accredited tour guide. Limited slots available. Reservations are now accepted at Le Ako Filipinas Tours Inc., Tel. no. 8004848 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.), or at 0917-8071000 & and 0917-5210000 after office hours and on weekends.

TV writing workshop at Ateneo-Rockwell

On March 26 and 27, Aaron Thomas, an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California, and writer and producer of the hit TV shows "CSI: NY," "Friday Night Lights," and "Numbers," will give a two-day workshop on writing the one-hour television drama.

To be covered are the basics of writing the TV narrative as well as the process of professional TV writing in Hollywood.

Workshop will be held 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Mini-Amphitheater of the Ateneo Professional Schools in Rockwell, Makati.

Workshop fee is P4,000 per person (not including lunch) and P3,000 for students with valid ID. Because of the limited number of seats available, interested parties are urged to register early.

E-mail T. Tolosa at ... or visit the website http://about.me/TVWorkshopManila.

Visit Laguna churches on Holy Thursday

The Visita Iglesia is one of the most beautiful traditions that Catholics observe during the Lenten season. This Holy Thursday, April 5, visit seven beautiful Catholic worship sites in the province of Laguna.

The tour takes participants to an air-conditioned tourist buses to the Church of St. Bartholomew in Nagcarlan, Church of St. John the Baptist in Liliw, Church of Pope St. Gregory the Great in Majayjay, a National Cultural Treasure; Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Magdalena, Church of St. Sebastian the Martyr in Lumban, Diocesan Shrine of St. Anthony de Padua in Pila, and Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Sta. Cruz.

Other highlights of the tour will be a visit to the Nagcarlan Underground Cemetery, a National Historical Landmark, and shopping in Liliw where participants can rummage through shoe stores lining

Photography contest for Filipino heritage

Bukas Movement for Cultural Advancement Inc. is extending the deadline of its nationwide photo contest to May 31. The contest is open to high school and college students. It focuses on capturing Filipino cultural traditions, rituals, festivals and values, and attempts to raise awareness among our Filipino youth on the urgent need to preserve significant aspects of our Filipino heritage.

Bukas Movement is a nonprofit, nonstock company which aims to preserve, promote and enhance the Filipino cultural legacy.

Top 20 photos shall be exhibited. Works of three high school and three college students will be declared winners. Call tel. nos. 4049430, 9126070, 9124938; e-mail info@bukasmovement.com.

Soap-making seminar

On March 17, Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Golden Treasures Skills and Development Program will conduct a one-day seminar on soap and perfume-making at the College of Social Work and Community Development, Magsaysay Ave., cor. Roxas St., University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC.

There will be a hands-on instruction on how to make liquid dishwashing soap, liquid hand soap, liquid all-purpose soap, liquid detergent soap, powder soap, dishwashing paste soap, herbal soap, glycerin (transparent) bath soap, liquid bleach and fabric softener.

The seminar also covers the making of different types of perfumes such as perfume spray, cologne spray, roll-on perfume, cream-type perfume, gel solid type perfume and eau de toilette.

Lunch, snacks, handouts and all the raw materials will also be provided. For questions, call 4211577, 4261659 and 9136651 or log on to www.GoldenTreasureSkills.com.

Food festival at NBC Tent

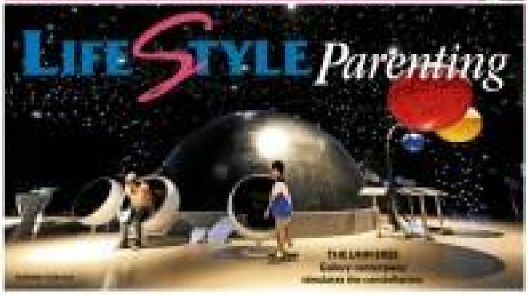
The Best Food Forward food festival is on March 24-25, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., at the NBC Tent. It promises to be an affair where everyone can savor the best food and celebrate it. Best Food Forward also aims to encourage friends, families and industry people to appreciate our local delicacies, entrepreneurial talent and creativity. Call 0917-8971633, 2116664, e-mail ... or visit ... forward.com.ph.

Best Food Forward is for the benefit of the Unang Hakbang Foundation.



JENNY San Jose and Glory Villarin of AB Features Corp., RB Rosario, Jose Bernardo and Holly Espino of Sure Business in the Pinoy Tropreneur trade show in Cebu. Pinoy Tropreneurs, organized by Rayco Productions and AB Features Corp., is part of "Mabuhay Sure Business" program which explores and showcases new business ideas for budding entrepreneurs. It aims to create success, tap unserved markets and perpetuate the entrepreneurial spirit among Filipinos. Sure Business addresses the mobile connectivity needs of above enterprises. Visit http://surebusiness.com.ph or call ...

LifeStyle Parenting



Child-friendly Mind Museum opens March 16

Museum seeks to make science interesting and fun for kids

THE MUSEUM is not a 'playground,' a place to let your kids loose. But The Mind Museum at Taguig (TMMT), which will open to the public March 16, seeks to make science accessible and interesting to kids; it seeks to be both educational and fun for kids.

TMMT promises to be a unique science museum where you won't have to rein in your child's curiosity and 'hyperactiveness.' These qualities play to the advantage of kids as they explore ...

CHILD-FRIENDLY E3

Our weekend dengue scare

I've heard people say that dengue mosquitoes bite at dawn, while others say dusk. To be safe, I just assume that they bite all day and all night long

Audrey Tan-Zubiri



MAMA DIARIES

SEE WEEKEND E4

COMICRelief

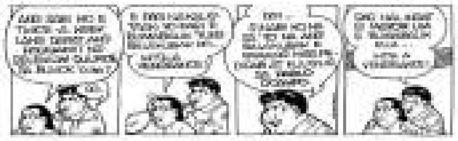
GARFIELD



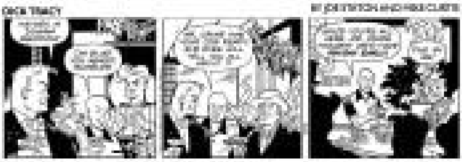
A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



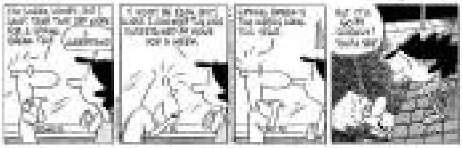
DICK TRACY



LOVELINES



BABY BLUES

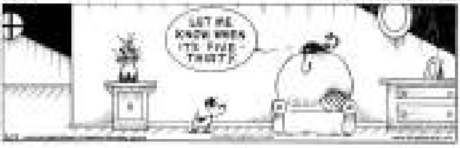




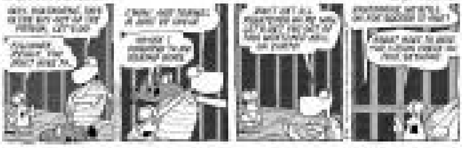
BEN



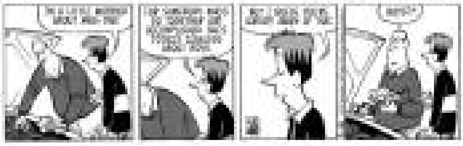
MUTTS



SHERMAN'S LAGOON



DUSTIN



TULDOK



HOROSCOPE

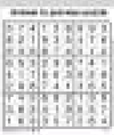
CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

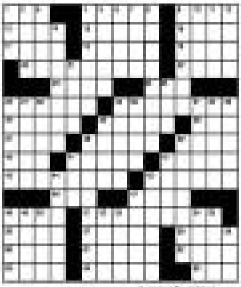
Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

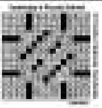
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			3		6			

Difficulty Level ★★★



CROSSWORD PUZZLE





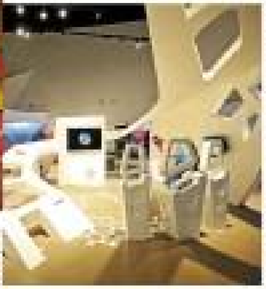






Child-friendly Mind Museum opens . . .





Experiential learning

Star-gazing in daytime









Curator's guidelines for parents taking their kids to the Mind Museum

Keeping safe in the bedroom

What happened to smoking bans in Manila and Makati?

THE CONSUMER

Linda B. Bolido

Short-lived campaign?

PhilHealth in the mall

Our weekend dengue scare

Expensive test

Anti-mosquito bracelets





Keeping clothes hip and fun for boys and girls

Gingersnaps' Cote D'Azur collection for girls offers an eye-catching selection of tops, bottoms and printed dresses





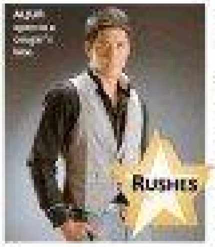
ENTERTAINMENT



Charice's everywhere

HEARD

Hunk tries to cheat on feisty GF

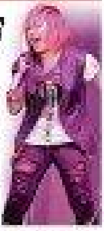


RUSHES

Major headache

Devil wears 'okay-okay'

Feisty boy



Teacher Basil, pop philosopher

Viewfinder
Nestor U. Torre





BASIL VALDEZ as mentor

Stickler for clarity



RYAN CAYABYAB The class was held in the music school.



YOUNG TALENTS eager to learn from the master

Eula wins Archie fans' hearts



COSTARS Eula Caballero and David Archuleta

Hunk tries to cheat on feisty GF

From page F1



ZSA ZSA Padilla: "In love."



GERALD Anderson: "I wish it were true."

Front act

Caught on cam

Top of the the Talk Shows



KYLIE Padilla



Happiest when working



GRACE Lee likes Kris Aquino

Opening This Week

My Kontrabida Girl

Directed by Jade Castro; stars Rhian Ramos, Aljur Abrenica, Bela Padilla, Sef Cadayona, [illegible] Pineda, Bella Flores, [illegible]

A nasty actress (Ramos), who plays a villainous character, undergoes a sudden change of heart. To recapture her mean streak, she searches for an old flame, a hunky gardener (Abrenica) who dumped her earlier. Quirky love story is director Castro's follow-up to the hit "Zombadings 1: Patayin sa Shokot si Remington." He [illegible] that GMA Films allowed him to make a different kind of romantic-comedy which also serves as tribute to contravidas.



"DR. SEUSS' The Lorax"

Corazon: Ang Unang Aswang

Directed by Richard Somes; stars Erich Gonzales, Derek Ramsay, Tyrone Quizon, Mark Gil, Trixie [illegible], [illegible]



LILY Collins in "Mirror Mirror"

Childless couple (Gonzales, Ramsay) are blessed with a baby—which brings misery and darkness into their lives. Director Somes has always been fascinated with the aswang myth. In this Star Cinema horror flick, he explores the genesis of our cultural creature that craves for man's blood. "But I want to focus on love," he says, and suggests that "utilizing the new, impressive talents" of the lead stars was an "exciting challenge."

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax

Directed by Chris Renaud; stars Zac Efron, Taylor Swift, Danny DeVito, Betty White, Ed Helms, Rob Riggle, Jenny Slate

In an artificial world, kid (Efron) looks for a tree to impress his crush (Swift). [illegible] "When [it] succeeds, it's by letting its [illegible] spirit shine through," USA Today's Claudia Puig opines. "The book's preservationist, environmental message is heavily intact." Washington Post's Michael O'Sullivan compares it to a "bowl of fuzzy Froot Loops. But it goes down like [illegible]."

Mirror, Mirror

Directed by Tarsem Singh; stars Julia Roberts, Lily Collins, Armie Hammer, Nathan Lane, Sean Bean, Mare Winningham, Robert Emms.

Banished princess seeks to overthrow wicked queen (Roberts). Guardian muses: It's "going to be a hit ... [illegible] is totally LOL (sic). It seems [this] will be the happy Snow White film and 'Snow White and the Huntsman' will be the miserable 'Twilight-y' one." A [illegible] reviewer opines: "It looks fizzy and sweet with a [illegible]." [illegible] predicts "a visually splendid piece of cinema like 'Immortals.'" Opens tomorrow.

Did You Know...

Nes Jardin resigns

[illegible] "sad and disheartened." [illegible] Center of the Philippines [illegible] — [illegible]





PRODUCER Pat Crowley (right), with actors John Arcilla [illegible] distribute school kits to children in San Andres.

A 'Bourne' legacy

By Marinel R. Cruz

San Andres kids to have new playground, courtesy of Hollywood star Rachel Weisz

THE CHILDREN of San Andres in Malate, Manila, will remember Rachel Weisz not only for spending time in their neighborhood to shoot the film "Bourne Legacy," but also for an act of generosity seen to make their days happier.

[illegible]



RACHEL Weisz ordered rubber mats for the new playground.

Fair amount

[illegible]

Fabulous shots

[illegible]

"The Bourne Legacy," a Universal Pictures production, premieres in the United States on Aug. 3.







ENTERTAINMENT

Gawad's best for fifth year



EUGENIO Lopez III: Show biz should have a social purpose.

DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal

[illegible]

Fulfillment

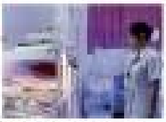
[illegible]

For feedback, e-mail sweetdollyanne@yahoo.com

'Bahay Bata' wins in France

[illegible]

—Bayani San Diego Jr.



DIANA Zubiri in "Bahay Bata"






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Whitney's daughter: Mom talks to me

Bobbi Kristina Brown tells Oprah lights turn on and off at home

LOS ANGELES—Whitney Houston's daughter said on Sunday that she still hears her mom encouraging her, "Keep moving, keep going."

In their first public interview since the singer's death, Bobbi Kristina Brown and Patricia Houston, the pop star's sister-in-law, revealed new details of what happened on the day Houston died.

Brown, 19, told talk show host Oprah Winfrey that she was "doing okay … I'm doing as good as I possibly can" since her mother was found lifeless in the bathtub of her room at the Beverly Hills Hilton hotel on Feb. 11, the eve of the music industry's Grammy Awards.

'I'm right here'

"I can hear her voice, you know, and her spirit talking to me, telling me, you know, 'Keep moving, baby. I'm right here. I got you.' … She's always with me. I can always feel her," Brown told Winfrey.

"She'd her pass through me all the time," continued Brown, whose father is singer Bobby Brown.

Houston and Bobby Brown's only daughter said she feels her mom's presence in the house they shared in Atlanta. The "lights turn on and off, and I go, 'Mom, what are you doing?' … I can still laugh with her. I can sit there and I can still talk with her."

Houston was 48 years old when she died. She rose to fame in the 1980s and enjoyed a long career that peaked with her 1992 hit "I Will Always Love You" from the movie "The Bodyguard."

But her life was plagued by a troubled marriage to Bobby Brown, and she had previously admitted to heavy use of cocaine, marijuana, alcohol and prescription pills. Officials have said prescription drugs were found in the hotel room where she died, but a cause of death is still pending toxicology tests that are expected later this month.

'Face down, naked'

The interview, which took place at the Atlanta home of Houston's brother Gary and sister-in-law and manager Patricia, revealed new details of the day the singer died.

Winfrey opened the broadcast by saying "members of the family told me she (Houston) was face down and naked" in the bathtub, and Patricia revealed that Houston's assistant, Mary, discovered the singer's body in the hotel room bathtub.

A security guard who is Patricia's brother tried to resuscitate Houston in the room but was unsuccessful. He was "trying to revive her to the point of exhaustion," Patricia said. "And I called his name. I said, 'Ray … let it go.' They (paramedics) asked him to move. He was on his knees. He said, 'I tried.' He was so out of breath."

A tear rolled down Patricia's face as she recalled the sight of her sister-in-law lying dead on the hotel room floor. "She had a peaceful look on her face," Patricia said.



WHITNEY Houston with only child Bobbi Kristina at the pre-Grammy gala in 2011



BOBBI Kristina with Oprah Winfrey (left) in her first interview after Whitney's death

Winfrey asked Patricia if she believed drugs were involved in the singer's death. Patricia said she believed the pop star's recent days of drug abuse were behind her, although she stopped short of saying Houston was not on drugs or drinking on the day she died.

Not drugs

"I don't think drugs (were) an issue for her before her death. I don't know what happened that day. Do you understand what I'm saying?" Patricia said.

Finally, Winfrey asked Houston's brother Gary whether Bobby Brown, whom Houston divorced in 2007, was asked by Houston's family not to attend the singer's funeral and Gary replied "Absolutely not." Bobby Brown did turn up for the funeral, but left early, blaming a mix-up with security over seating.

He said his family was not angry about a picture of Houston in her casket that was printed in the tabloids following her death, and added that his mother long ago had premonitions about a young demise for his sister. "I remember my mother used to say … 'Whitney's not going to be with us too long,'" Gary said. "She's an angel. She's a gift." *Reuters*

Child protection in media



IT'S GOOD to know that child protection in broadcast media is the current concern of the Ad Standards Council (ASC) and Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas (KBP), said veteran actor RJ "Fehdi" Fecher, who delivered a special address to media practitioners in the forum "Children and Media: Responsible Communication." The event was held in partnership with the Philippine Association of National Advertisers and the Juvenile Justice Welfare Council. Topics discussed were how kids are portrayed in media and when child participation in TV shows borders on exploitation.

Unsinkable…

From page G4

Elvie said.

"Apart from her illness, the calamity was another reason that they stopped doing the show for a while," Cristina explained.

"Ariel sold two of his cars, so we could have our old house renovated," Mommy Elvie noted.

Ariel hopes to finish "Mommy Elvie the Movie," too. "I wouldn't know what to do if I lost my mom. Only thing I know for sure is that it would be very painful."

Now that she's back on her feet, Mommy Elvie wants to pay forward the blessings she received.

"Hopefully, Mommy Elvie's show can also provide livelihood projects to deserving viewers. Our sponsors, Pure C, Bonifassi, Mega C and Mapecon, have expressed their intention to help," Cristina said. "Mapecon gave Mommy Elvie a billboard on Edsa."

Elvie was another item checked off Mommy Elvie's wish list.

(The 30-minute show airs on Saturdays at 10:30 p.m. on IBC News TV.)

(bayaniicasa@gmail.com)



YOUNG ARIEL (in hat), with Joey de Leon, his mom's nephew



Unsinkable Mommy Elvie back, of course

After a cancer scare, 84-year-old reality star returns with an inspiring show



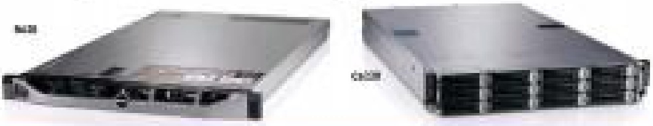




GADGETS Gallery

Dell introduces power-packed PowerEdge servers in PH

WITH more companies—from small businesses to hyper-scale data centers—looking for more powerful enterprise servers, Dell Philippines recently unveiled its 12th generation PowerEdge servers.



Put an end to bill nightmares with the Sun anti-bill shockplans

Dell introduces power-packed PowerEdge servers in PH



Chris Papa



Gorgeous visual experience with the Acer S191HQL LED monitor

HP sponsors Universal Pictures and Illumination Entertainment's 3-D CG feature, 'Dr. Seuss' The Lorax'

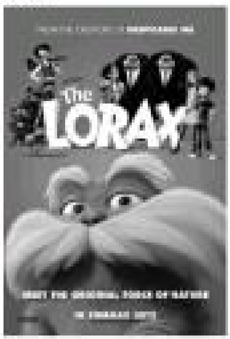
HP also launches environmental education programs related to the film

'Every kidding makes a difference'

More sustainable printing

Lorax-themed printer app and widget

About Dr. Seuss' The Lorax



LG Smart TV brings KPop Zone to Filipino homes

Customers can avail of a free 30-day KPOP coupon for every purchase of an LG Cinema 3D and Smart TV from Feb. 1 to March 31



PLDT's SME TechMobile makes the rounds



Capturing photographic masterpieces with the new Olympus OM-D





FOR A WORRY-FREE SUBSCRIBER EXPERIENCE

Globe introduces Load Watch, a prepaid load notification service

SINGAPORE IT SHOW 2012

A sneak preview of what to save for next





Watch out for the Samsung Galaxy Note Studio



Discover the Note's powerful features



